

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 057070
ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 SSO-00
NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
SIG-01 /097 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:JFTEFFT:CB
APPROVED BY IO:DRTOUSSAINT
IO/UNP:GBHELMAN
IO:CWMAYNES
AF:WBEDMONDSON

-----150306Z 032486 /61

O R 150227Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PANAMA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 057070

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, DM

SUBJECT: SECURITY COUNCIL: BENIN COMPLAINT

1. DEPARTMENT IS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED THAT RESOLUTION
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MIGHT BE PUT TO SECURITY COUNCIL CALLING FOR
COMPENSATION BY INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO BENIN FOR
DAMAGE INFLICTED IN JANUARY 16 ATTACK ON COTONOU.
WE BELIEVE SUCH ACTION WOULD BE BAD POLITICAL AND
LEGAL PRECEDENT FOR COUNCIL TO SET.

2. ALTHOUGH WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO BLOCK BENINESE-

TYPE RESOLUTION WE BELIEVE THREAT OF FIVE WESTERN
POWERS ABSTENTION ON SUCH A RESOLUTION WOULD CAUSE
BENINESE TO CAREFULLY CONSIDER WHETHER TO GO AHEAD.
MISSION SHOULD THEREFORE CONSULT WITH OTHER WESTERN
MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL TO PRESENT UNITED FRONT TO
AFRICANS AGAINST A CALL FOR COMPENSATION. WE
REALIZE THAT FRENCH AGREEMENT TO GO ALONG WITH
BENINESE DESIDERATA MAY PRECLUDE SUCH A TACTIC, BUT
WE SUGGEST MISSION ASK FRENCH TO RECONSIDER THEIR
POSITION.

3. YOU SHOULD ALSO TELL WESTERN GOVERNMENTS THAT
WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED THAT DEBATE WILL RESULT IN SOME
FORM OF CALL FOR INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
AGAINST MERCENARIES. WE WOULD WISH TO LOOK VERY
CAREFULLY AT ANY LANGUAGE PROPOSED BY AFRICANS
CONCERNING MERCENARIES.

VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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